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Testing the Cult of Nastiness.

No criticism can fairly be made of the authorities for their action on two notorious plays now presented in expensive theatres in this town. They have heeded the protests of those who in the name of common decency and common sense cried out against the exploitation of prostitution for gain, and have set in operation the legal processes designed to confine one kind of viciousness to the darkness of its natural environment.

Whether these actions will succeed in their specific objects is a question not to be considered here. Yet it may be said confidently, regardless of their outcome, that no imposition of criminal penalties, no suppression of one or two or half a dozen plays, will suffice to end the plague of obscenity of which they are incidents if that affliction enlists the support, whatever disguise of pretence it may wear, of a majority of the public.

That the appetite for nastiness is general and deep seated, and men will refuse to believe, and they will accept the present prosecutions as indexing accurately the real sentiments of the vast majority of citizens of this town.

The Tariff Commission Plan Gaining Ground.

The tariff bill is not likely to be in conference long, and when it emerges Congress will be disposed to send it to the President promptly, for conference reports are generally accepted unless some vital principle is at stake. A great many changes have been made by the Senate in the Underwood bill as it came from the House; some of them are so sweeping that the amended measure is a much longer step in the direction of a tariff for revenue only. But the temper of the Senate is not so conservative as it used to be. The slender majority of the Democrats has compelled them to compromise with radical Republicans like Mr. POINDEXTER and Mr. LA FOLLETTE; these Senators have had a good deal to do with reshaping the bill, particularly Mr. LA FOLLETTE, who has won fresh laurels as an assistant Democrat.

A significant vote in the Senate Saturday was that on the amendment of Senator WORKS of California providing for a tariff commission of nine members with salaries of \$10,000 a year. It was defeated 32 to 37, a vote that did not reflect the judgment of the Senate, several Democrats declaring that they approved of the idea of a commission, but not when it was inserted in a general tariff bill; they thought that it should be made the subject of an individual bill.

Mr. TAFT advocated an expert tariff commission, and it is intimated that his successor looks with favor upon the proposal. As a part of the bill which is the capricious work of Democratic majorities and their allies in the House and Senate, the presence of the commission amendment would be indeed a satire. Congress wanted no advice from the Taft tariff board and proceeded to demonstrate that special knowledge and familiarity with trade conditions were not essential when passing a brand new tariff bill to reduce the cost of living and destroy trusts was the thing to do.

Nevertheless, serious minded Democrats realize that legislation so hastily fashioned in a partisan spirit is crude and unscientific and will have to be paid for in loss of public confidence. Hence they are not opposed to the principle of a commission that shall study trade conditions and furnish Congress with expert information to guide it in tariff legislation. The vote in the Senate on Saturday points to the acceptance of the commission plan by men of both parties.

What Are We Here For?

With no disrespect to the respectable JOHN BARTLETT or any other punter and compiler of alleged "popular quotations," we know no manual of the kind that traces and records the famous phrases of comparatively recent American politicians. Mr. CLEVELAND's "public office is a public trust," "perfidious activity," "innocuous denude," and especially the first, have indeed engaged the researcher's sympathetic investigations; but time soon blunts the edge of phrases uttered by obscure men, which, nevertheless, had their hour, resounding and triumphant. "Where are we at?" was as common as taxes a few years ago. How many memories recall Conn of Alabama, if he it was, the Representative in Congress who asked the immor-

tal question and up earned his dark little niche in Fame's proud temple? If "rum, Romanism and rebellion," now often softened and taken out of the field of religious intolerance as "rum, rheumatism and rebellion," still reverberates on account of the political result fairly or truly attributed to it in 1884, who but arteriosclerotic hunkers retain that once memorable macabre saying or writing of a Texas officeholder, "a tiger [one] man than ten old quarts"? It shook the country's ribs in one general guffaw. Now, perhaps, only ghosts "shake their gaunt sides" over it.

Was his name FITZGIBBON, or what of Texas? We are reminded of him by the appointment of the Hon. ALXANDER WALKER in place of that irrepressible and "grand old" Lone Star Republican General WHEELER (Wes) FLANAGAN as Collector of Internal Revenue at Austin. General FLANAGAN was a familiar figure at Republican national conventions for full forty years. His frank "What are we here for if not the offices?" stirred the civil service reformers of the Curtis-Godkin school and gave the country the unusual joy of seeing a politician who was not a hypocrite.

General WES FLANAGAN is a Kentuckian Irishman of eighty-odd; able, courteous, surrounded in a Democratic State with troops of friends and all that should accompany old age. As he leaves the Federal palace in Austin he must grin to think how thoroughly his motto has been carried out by Mr. BYRAN in the diplomatic service and is being carried out in all branches of the Federal civil service. "What are we here for?" Platitudes change; fine sentimentalities cover up the old brutalities; all the virtues go on the stump; but, Republican, Democratic, Progressive, "we" are here for the same old purpose.

An Error as to the Significance of Certain Federal Prosecutions.

From the REV. CHARLES F. AKED's published thoughts on a criminal trial recently concluded in the city of San Francisco the subjoined illuminating conclusion is excerpted:

"But the Diggins-Caminetti case told all the great world that law had now armed itself against conduct which for long ages both men and women have condoned and stood ready to brand as a party to this iniquity men who only thought to tread, as men have done before them, the primrose path of dalliance at the cost of a woman's shame."

"The news was really new."
"It was new news."
"It was startling news."

To nobody having the slightest knowledge of the criminal laws of any State in the Union or of any Territory was it news that "law had now armed itself" to punish conduct like that of these California worthies. There is a "new" and a "startling" aspect of these Federal prosecutions; it constitutes "real news." It is the revelation of the United States in the character of a regulator of those domestic affairs which hitherto State Governments have felt sufficiently powerful to manage. The stupendous significance of the appearance of the Federal Government in this character the REV. CHARLES F. AKED seems entirely incompetent to comprehend.

The Lloyd George Golfers.

The Right Hon. DAVID LLOYD GEORGE is not a golfer because he once blindly holed in on one on a course in southern France—every novice has done such a thing at some time or other—but as a natural philosopher who has dabbled with the game Mr. LLOYD GEORGE qualifies to give advice about it. In distributing prizes after a tournament in Wales the other day he proclaimed the theory that the poor player got more out of golf than the good player, more exercise, more thrills and more gratification. As a poor player himself, Mr. LLOYD GEORGE's views are not to be whistled down the wind. His holing out in one was never repeated on any other course, and there is a suspicion that the polite Frenchman who found the economist's golf ball in the hole on the other side of an olive copse put it in with his foot to furnish Mr. LLOYD GEORGE with a deathless reminiscence. That gentleman's theory of comparative values he thus explained at Criccieth:

"The better a man played the less he got out of it both as regards exercise and enjoyment. For the good player got worried over the slightest mistake, whereas the poor player made too many mistakes to worry over them and was bent upon getting all the enjoyment he could out of the game."

The Right Hon. ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR would say that nothing else could be expected from such a barbarian as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was born without the golfing temperament. But is he radically and absolutely wrong? Every good golfer will deplore to days when he went out to the links prepared, both physically and mentally, to reduce his score and failed to do so ignominiously, owing to lamentable mischances that were utterly unaccountable and mysterious. It seemed like implacable destiny and he was helpless, but the fiasco rankled in his soul; it spoiled his temper, affected his appetite and drove sleep from his pillow. He counted that day lost, a black letter day, and thought of giving up golf as a game that had no compensations at all for him.

In every club there is a detached group of incorrigibly poor players, who about with vague glee when they go round in less than 110. As the British Chancellor of the Exchequer says, they make too many "mistakes" to worry about their play, but they do enjoy themselves hugely; and what with losing the ball in long grass, or topping or slicing on most of the drives, or taking many grotesque and ineffectual strokes to escape from sand bunkers, they get infinitely more exer-

cise for their legs and back muscles out of the game than any exclusive golfer does. Mr. LLOYD GEORGE congratulates himself that he is, and will ever be, in the happy go lucky, irresponsible, fondly foolish and disreputable class of players who always perform badly and are ever blissfully indifferent to Colonel Bogey's score.

It has escaped no casual observer that the painstaking, earnest golfer is an unhappy man. A stroke or two less than his deserts is a greater tragedy to him than the engulfing of thousands of Hindus in a flood or the destruction of cities by earthquake. Famine, war and pestilence are negligible if he is "off his game." The fellow has ceased to be human—a very mournful type indeed. How much more to be envied is the unskilled and irresponsible golfer, who laughs his way over the course, takes his mishaps philosophically as they come, never turns in a score for a cup, eats like a wayfarer, sleeps like an apple cheeked child and never has golf on his mind.

"Trying the Case in the Newspapers."

At a "Sulzer rally" in Brooklyn General HORATIO C. KING is reported to have urged the Governor for not trying his case in the newspapers. "This is the best piece of unconscious sarcasm that has been uttered to date. What with circular letters to every Governor in the Union, what with rhetorical epistles to Congressmen which somehow are made public, what with two prose odes upon himself to the Righteous One and the published reply from the same Fount of Virtue, what with the broadsides and telegraphed bombast from the Hon. LYNN J. ARNO to every corner of the State, a case might have been tried less in the newspapers but surely not more.

Hardly had General KING taken his seat than there was afforded to him a proper illustration of how carefully Governor SULZER has refrained from any desire to prejudice popular opinion. The Hon. JOSEPH BARONDESS, a member of the Board of Education, arose and read to the audience of 2,500 a letter in which Governor SULZER concluded with these words of swaggering defiance:

"I was impeached by the use of promises and intimidation. I was impeached because I would not violate my oath of office. The facts will all come out in the end, when the people will fully understand the truth. I have no fear of the outcome."

Who could "intimidate" WILLIAM SULZER from replying to categorical charges with categorical answers except WILLIAM SULZER himself? Violate his oath of office? Has he not that oath confused with another oath that he made on a false statement of fact? It was the violation of the latter oath, not the former, that impeached Governor SULZER.

The rest of his reply that "the facts will come out in the end, when the people will understand the truth," &c., is familiar chicanery. The trouble is that the facts have come out and that Governor SULZER has not answered them. No shilly shally can get away from his own sworn statement of his campaign fund, signed and filed with the Secretary of State.

The Sheriff and Mrs. Pankhurst.

Sheriff JULIUS HARBURGER's warning to Mrs. PANKHURST that she must behave herself when she comes to New York is in the Sheriff's best style. He gives the lady very clearly to understand that "dynamiters, arsonists, bomb throwers, seditiousists, silly fulminators, unwomanly actions, nihilistic flouters, amazon mannikins, anarchistic portrayers, would-be cowardly assassins have been stopped and cannot be recounted by man or woman, with paranoiacal tendencies or otherwise." After that there is no excuse whatever for Mrs. PANKHURST to have any doubts as to the estimation in which she is held by the Sheriff of New York county.

But the Sheriff's solemnly uttered warning is unnecessary, just as it would be unnecessary and inexpedient for the Immigration authorities to exercise the rights which they undoubtedly possess and refuse Mrs. PANKHURST admission to the country. Mrs. PANKHURST is coming here for one purpose only: that is to make money, and she is far too shrewd a woman of business to imperil her popularity as a lecturer on prostitution by advocating violent suffrage tactics in this country.

Mrs. PANKHURST's obvious cue in America is to demonstrate how sweet and gentle and womanly a militant leader can be and so arouse sympathy for the Woman's Social and Political Union expressed in practical terms of dollars and cents.

The French Academy ought to give a Monthyon prize to Coaticook.

BYRAN starts Washington.
Leaves on tour with acrobats, merrymen and conjurers.—Headlines in the Paris Matin.

The foreign press can be pardoned for failing to understand the true inwardness of the Chautauqua circuit and for assuming that the Secretary of State is touring the country as a member of a troupe of one night stand mountebanks. The unparadoxical thing is that Mr. BYRAN has given grounds for this foreign impression of the activities of the Secretary of State of the United States of America.

Every city needs a distinctive spirit.—San Antonio Light.
Manhattan, Medford and Plymouth have one.

Dr. HEINRICH KLENZ of Leipzig has coined a word to express bad marriage, "cacamania."—Rochester Post Express.
Why not "cacogamy"?

A thousand bogus names—ten thousand names—must be written on a petition for a referendum, and the Secretary of State has no alternative but to accept them, though he may know abso-

lutely that forgery is their essence and falsehood their substance.—Portland Oregonian.

Is it possible that one of the main principles of "Progressive municipal government" fails to be perfect when put into practice? What is the trouble with "constructive liberalism"?

It turns out that Senator de ZAMACONA, former Mexican Ambassador to the United States, is coming to this country on a private mission, and not in a diplomatic capacity. So another story that President HUIZTA is about to capitulate to the Washington Administration has to be sent to the limbo of fable. It would not be fair, however, to hold the State Department responsible for much that is written about Mexico nowadays.

Herr LIEBKNECHT, the Socialist leader in the Reichstag, to-day declined a challenge for a duel sent to him by a high official of the Krupp Company.—Berlin Daily News.

Herr LIEBKNECHT's offence was that he had charged Krupp employees with bribing subordinates in the War Office and caused an investigation to be made. How easy it would be to dispose of Socialist leaders in the Reichstag if they would consent to stand up and be shot at. The late AUGUST BEBEL would not have lasted very long.

New Hampshire's great Governor, the Hon. ROBERT P. BASS.—Leicester Journal.
Great Bass! Great Scott! Another Triton of the minnows. If BOB BASS is great, Queen Mab was at least a million miles tall.

Senator BORAH contended that if laboring men were not ambitious they would become industrial slaves.—Despatch from Washington.

These are great days for slavery of one kind and another. All mankind has become divided into two classes. Under one head come the kings of finance, tariff barons, captains of industry; under the other come serfs and slaves. You must not quite have made up your mind whether you are a serf or a helot, but one thing is certain, you must be either one or the other.

There shall be one great banquet board around which all small sit in free and just enjoyment.—The Hon. MORRIS EDWIN CLAPP, a Senator in Congress from Minnesota.

How can anybody enjoy a banquet when he knows that all the horrendous blarney of the politicians is being blown over it and blow it over by the time coffee is reached?

Would Senator NORRIS of Nebraska allow infant children to inherit from their fathers? Such infants have "never raised one finger to do any useful work toward earning that accumulated wealth." Would Senator NORRIS accept a legacy?

Autumn Approaches.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Friday, September 5, has now passed, and the sultry, uncomfortable reign of dog day is over for the year 1913.

Tuesday, September 23, is near at hand, and soon King Summer will begin another retreat toward the frozen north. Labor Day is past and back to the city flows a tide of summer exiles from wave washed shore or verdure clad hillside. Children's schools have almost all recommenced once more, and every weekday morning and afternoon one by one or in happy groups boys and girls, younger and older, pass along the city streets.

As though the city has awakened from a summer's sleep, as though the advent of autumn was proclaimed by these harbingers of renewed activities. Now and then we meet some familiar faces, and here and there old acquaintances and once more in reply to our greetings. Already the spirit of fall is around us—more and more in the air. In the general calm and quietude of the passing crowd, in our own looks and feelings. Soon the white harvest moon will shine in glory upon field and fell and busy hands will quickly gather the harvest of the year. The rising sun, half now showing above the rising sun, outline, running uniformly around and at their greatest cross section.

"Perhaps it is only melons somewhat fattened by the sun, but cut advantageously by the knife, but a cantaloupe so cut tastes as well as any other, while that scalloped effect around the edges is not unpleasant."
CANTALOUPE.
New York, September 6.

When "The Star Spangled Banner" Is Played.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN:—May I bring before the readers of THE SUN a matter upon which I am sure we all feel deeply as a nation? Why is it that "The Star Spangled Banner" is not played in our own country and yet in general is lacking in ours, which of all countries inspires the most ardent patriotism? Over and over again I have been mortified by the utter lack of patriotic feeling shown by a large audience regarding national feeling. A few nights ago I persuaded my mother, Mrs. B. B. B. to attend a small exhibition of the new and very interesting home. A conservative estimate would number the crowd about eight hundred. At the close of the performance of the national anthem, the American flag, uncovered and remained standing at attention while "The Star Spangled Banner" was played. My mother has been a naturalized citizen for twenty-six years, and as her mother's mother was a native-born American, she is intensely loyal to her adopted country. Another person in the audience moved. A number of people near us sneered and laughed, some demanded we repeat ourselves. One remark was made: "We are all Americans and it doesn't hurt us to sit."

Now it was not through ignorance that the people remained seated. The national air had not been "ragged" or "medley," which I am sorry to say is often the case; this was the finale of a scene meant to bring all patriotism to the surface, and that some one might think it was in itself a little thing to see some one insult to the national hymn and flag of our country, whether shown by one or many, a grave misdemeanor, to say the least.

Is there no way in which the American people as a whole can be taught the respect and courtesy due the symbols of our nation? Every American must, I am sure, be loyal at heart.
THEODORE BOOTH.
BLUE POINT, L. I., September 8.

Hands Off and Let the Fittest Govern.—ment in Mexico Survive.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Our civil war was a domestic affair, fought and settled among ourselves, without the intervention of any foreign Powers. Why not let Mexico fight it out the same way without any intervention on our part?

Our policy should be hands off, stand back, place no embargo on any faction in Mexico, serving arms or other ammunition from the States f. o. b.; recognize the acknowledged head of the Mexican Government as such, and let the Mexicans rapidly as the Mexicans change their minds; refuse to make loans to that country and let it be a case of the survival of the fittest.

This absolute and arbitrary stand made public the world over and the confidence of prospective investors such a confidence as would bring about a tremendous sale for our securities, an enormous advance in the market.
NEW YORK, September 8.
TAXPAYER.

REAR END COLLISIONS.

Modification of Time Tables Would Materially Reduce the Number.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Each wreck on the New Haven railroad has been thoroughly investigated by Federal and State authorities. Recommendations are made and orders given, but accidents are so numerous that the Connecticut Governor, in whose jurisdiction each occurs and to renew the agitation for steel car construction to mitigate the damage done by wrecks.

Congress can legislate; commissions can regulate; railroads can change signals from "banjo type" to any other type and acquire steel equipment, but so long as railroads operate trains in close proximity at high speed rear end collisions will occur and so long as the present demand for swift and frequent service prevails trains will run close and fast. Despite all statements to the contrary, railroads regulate their passenger trains to suit the needs of the New Haven Mountain Express was run in two sections because the demand for tickets was greater than one section could supply.

When the New York and New England patrons of the "New England Lines" are willing to ride slower and wait longer for trains the danger of wrecks will be greatly lessened.

The Pennsylvania Railroad, pioneer in steel cars, has been the cause of many of the worst wrecks on the Hudson River. Its new service under the Hudson River announced that steel cars prevented the danger of fire in wrecks. From the present agitation and arguments on street cars one would think the steel cars are proof against any kind of train accident. Let the steel equipment come, but by all means the railroad commissioners should change time tables and prevent crowding the tracks.

ALBANY, September 7.

They Are Said to Be Unheard Of Under the Automatic Stop Systems.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—It is doubtful whether steel cars would save the lives of the passengers in a collision similar to the recent one of the New Haven Express. It is possible but hardly probable that a one would be injured should a heavy train of steel cars, with the last car empty, stop on track, and a similar train of steel cars traveling at an hour crash into the rear of the standing train.

Would it not be safer and much more economical to make the rails adopt the simple method of automatically stopping a train at the moment it passes a signal set against it? On railroads where this system is in use rear end collisions are unheard of.

It is reported that on the subway should a motorman run to a stop signal the power is cut off and the brakes are applied automatically, bringing the train to a stop. Likewise, on the railroads, the stop signal shuts off the steam and stops the pressure to the brakes regardless of the engineer, whether he has seen the signal or not, which he is not likely to do. He is not likely to make up lost time and running in dense fog.

There is no unnecessary delay in travel by using this simple device; an engineer instantly apply air pressure and release the brakes, and the steam and throttle to the engine and proceed, but less the block signal had been raised it is not likely that he would do so.

Unquestionably under these conditions would the safety of the passengers be increased and crew of a train should be just as safe in the last car as in the middle car.
NEW YORK, September 6.

FRUIT OF THE GODS.

A Brief Excursion on Ways of Cutting a Cantaloupe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—The common way of dividing a cantaloupe into halves is by cutting it from pole to pole, meaning the knife along in the creases or ridges between the melon's longitudinal rounded ridges. But here a very melon that had been cut just the other way, not longitudinally but through their creases, and the result was a cantaloupe cut around its upper outer edge a scalloped effect; produced simply by cutting the melon not lengthwise, between the ridges, but across them, between the ridges. The half now showing above the rising sun, outline, running uniformly around and at their greatest cross section.

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TAXPAYER.

THE DRAMA OF DEBAUCHERY.

Parient, Vice Stimulating Plays Thrown in the Public's Face.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: All honor is due you for giving large space to the letter of "American Citizen" upon "The Drama of Debauchery." Would that it might reach the eye and stir to action the heart of every clear minded member of our society.

A moral leprosy is in our midst, further reaching and more deadly than the physical disease by that name against which every scientific and medical device known to man shields us.

"American Citizen" took his wife to see "Damaged Goods" without having been previously informed of the character of the play, but I personally know of some women who with full knowledge of the character and plot of the play have invited men friends to witness the fifth with them. What are we coming to? Shall we longer sit quietly by without an effort to purify the strictly clean left to pursue its course, will sooner or later taint the minds if not the lives of our own households?

We have in this city a Society for the Suppression of Vice, another for the suppression of crime, and another that stands for Social Purity, whose advocates plead for more money to carry on their work. They pray before large church audiences for the "protection of the youth of our city."

Meanwhile a play that stimulates vice and shows as an amusement social immorality peddles its disgusting wares before the footlights for consecutive months. Please and prayers without action never protect nor save "the youth of our land," for faith without works is dead!
AMERICAN MOTHER.
NEW YORK, September 8.

THE DRAMA OF FILTH.

The Part That Women Can Play in Preventing Its Success.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: In justice to the women of Colorado and in justice to the suffrage movement elsewhere may I venture out, in reply to a letter from "American Citizen" under the heading of "The Drama of Debauchery" in today's SUN, to tell the women have by their vote rid their cities of brothels and saloons? In Colorado Springs and Colorado City these two evils have been done away with, mainly through the action of the women of the States. This may also be the case in other places where the women have the vote.

Isn't it about time for credit to be given to women voters for the work they have accomplished? We are continually hearing it said that the women who have the vote have made no good or successful use of it, a conclusion which this "American Citizen" seems to think should be drawn from the play in question. This is not true, and if the woman in this play stoops to the corrupt aid of machine politics she is by no means typical of the vote giving women in those States where women have the vote.

This does not necessarily imply belief that woman suffrage is the cure for all evils. It is not, but it is a decided good, and its influence is certain to be better than that of a man, if the relative values of the two are taken into consideration. The abuse of the vote by the women has been a decided good, and its influence is certain to be better than that of a man, if the relative values of the two are taken into consideration. The abuse of the vote by the women has been a decided good, and its influence is certain to be better than that of a man, if the relative values of the two are taken into consideration.

Of course, however, the main point of "American Citizen's" letter is not this. Every self-respecting person is in complete sympathy with the work of the women against the "debauchery of the drama" as he so well puts it. Personally I haven't seen the play in question, but much to my disgust I did witness a similar play at the Grand Opera House in New York, and I was not alone. It was most revolting, most unnecessary and perhaps most harmful where it was "supposed" to do most good. That such plays ought to be stopped there is no question, and for heaven's sake please do not start a public campaign against them. Every time this has been done it has only served to give the plays a greater vogue. Let such responsible citizens as the women of this country, who are the best of their own stinking nastiness, as they must die in a country which is at heart sane, healthy and clean. A genuine success or prolonged run in the theatre needs the support of the women, and men may be sure that their wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and sweethearts are not going to support such plays.

The play is not that such plays are revolting, and that the women who write them are the worst of the worst. It is a thing that a manager who writes such a good, heretofore wholesome play will devote their services to such filthy and disgusting business. The commercial fitness and personal decency—if they have either.
NEW YORK, September 8.

When "The Star Spangled Banner" Is Played.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN:—May I bring before the readers of THE SUN a matter upon which I am sure we all feel deeply as a nation? Why is it that "The Star Spangled Banner" is not played in our own country and yet in general is lacking in ours, which of all countries inspires the most ardent patriotism? Over and over again I have been mortified by the utter lack of patriotic feeling shown by a large audience regarding national feeling. A few nights ago I persuaded my mother, Mrs. B. B. B. to attend a small exhibition of the new and very interesting home. A conservative estimate would number the crowd about eight hundred. At the close of the performance of the national anthem, the American flag, uncovered and remained standing at attention while "The Star Spangled Banner" was played. My mother has been a naturalized citizen for twenty-six years, and as her mother's mother was a native-born American, she is intensely loyal to her adopted country. Another person in the audience moved. A number of people near us sneered and laughed, some demanded we repeat ourselves. One remark was made: "We are all Americans and it doesn't hurt us to sit."

Now it was not through ignorance that the people remained seated. The national air had not been "ragged" or "medley," which I am sorry to say is often the case; this was the finale of a scene meant to bring all patriotism to the surface, and that some one might think it was in itself a little thing to see some one insult to the national hymn and flag of our country, whether shown by one or many, a grave misdemeanor, to say the least.

Is there no way in which the American people as a whole can be taught the respect and courtesy due the symbols of our nation? Every American must, I am sure, be loyal at heart.
THEODORE BOOTH.
BLUE POINT, L. I., September 8.

Hands Off and Let the Fittest Govern.—ment in Mexico Survive.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Our civil